

**Patent claims**

1. A method for providing measured values for end  
customers, having the following method steps:  
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a measured value for a process variable is  
recorded using a sensor S1, S2, S3,  
the measured value is transmitted to a process  
10 control system PLS,  
the number A of transmission operations is  
counted,  
15 the costs for the end customer are calculated on  
the basis of the number A of transmission  
operations.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, where the data  
20 transmission between sensor S1, S2, S3 and process  
control system PLS takes place in line-conducted  
fashion, e.g. using a data bus system DBS.
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, where the data  
25 transmission between sensor S1, S2, S3 and process  
control system PLS takes place by radio.
4. The method as claimed in one of the preceding  
claims, where the number A of transmission  
30 operations is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3.
5. The method as claimed in one of the preceding  
claims 1 to 3, where the number A of transmission  
operations is stored in the process control system  
35 PLS.
6. The method as claimed in one of the preceding  
claims, where the measured values are transmitted

over the Internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer's, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the Internet, and the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

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7. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims 1-6, where the measured values are transmitted by radio (e.g. GSM) from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer's, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the Internet, and the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

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